

## Sample lesson plan for *Grammar for IELTS* Unit 9

**Student preparation for this class:** Have learners study the first part, the grammar, before the class and make notes on anything they need clarifying in class. (20–30 mins)

**Teacher preparation:** none

### Practice exercises (45 mins)

#### FOCUS

These exercises train learners to use articles in an appropriate way in spoken and written English.

#### Exercise 1

This exercise not only gives learners practice in using articles accurately, but also focuses attention on the specific reasons for using them. It would be helpful to have learners discuss their answers in small groups before checking with the answer key; identifying the rule number will ensure that they can justify their answers.

**Typical mistakes:** Some nationalities have particular problems with the use of articles and need extra support, for example speakers of Slavic languages such as Russian, Polish, Czech and Slovenian.

#### Exercise 2

This exercise builds on Exercise 1: a typical IELTS Reading text is used to show the importance of using articles accurately. Direct attention to the Grammar tip in the middle of page 39. This will ensure that your learners pay particular attention to this often misunderstood area. If you feel your learners would benefit, have them discuss the rule for each choice in groups before checking the answers.

#### Exercise 3

Direct attention to the Exam tip in the middle of page 40. Have learners complete the exercise and check their answers in pairs. Point out that awareness of the presence or absence of articles in texts can help learners complete gapped sentences and summaries using the correct number of words, e.g. if the rubric states that a maximum of three words can be used, it is important to know that *people*, in item 3, does not take an article.

#### Exercise 4

Point out that articles are some of the most common words in a text and misusing them can cause confusion and have a negative effect on the reader, resulting in lost marks. Highlight the importance of learners editing their work; point out that it is useful to edit separately for the use of articles – as in this exercise.

#### EXTENSION ACTIVITY (15 MINS)

For additional practice in using articles, have learners test each other in pairs. One reads out a specific use as stated in the Grammar section, and their partner gives the answer:

L1: *Where there is only one of something.*

L2: *Definite article.*

When they finish, have them swap roles.

### Exam practice (30 mins)

This can be assigned for homework. Remind learners to look again at the Tip boxes, as well as the Exam tip box on page 41, before completing the Exam practice section.

If you have time in the next class, you could have learners assess each other's work and then compare with the model answer. The more you encourage your learners to evaluate each other's work, the more they will think about their own writing.